GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:173
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2003
DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES FOR TALENTED CHILDREN OF DALIT COMMUNITY
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have launched certain schemes for the development of talented children belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes (Dalit community) keeping in view the provisions of reservation becoming irrelevant in the age of disinvestment;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the financial assistance provided thereunder;

(c) the names of the States where such schemes are being run for the development of talented children of Dalit Community; and

(d) the extent to which these schemes are helpful in the upliftment of the Dalit Community?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (b) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 173 for 31.07.2003 regarding `Development Schemes for Talented Children of Dalit Community`

The Ambedkar National Scholarship is given to the three students scoring the highest marks in the regular Class X examination conducted by the Boards of Secondary Education in States and the Central Boards.

Under this All India Scheme, scholarships are given separately for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In case, none of the first three eligible students are girls, the girl students scoring the highest marks will get a special award. In case more than one student get the same marks, the number of awards will be suitably increased to cover all such eligible students.

The scholarship will be given as one time grant as per the following norms:-

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i.)     Student securing highest marks  - Rs. 60,000/-
ii)     Student securing 2nd highest marks - Rs. 50,000/-
iii)    Student securing 3rd highest mark - Rs. 40,000/-
iv)   Girl student securing highest mark
 (in case she is not in the above
 three categories)   - Rs. 40,000/-
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Keeping in view the SC & ST population of the country as per 1991 census, 250 special merit scholarships @ Rs. 10,000 each given to SC/ST students securing next highest marks, after 1st, 2nd and 3rd position. This will be in addition to the awards indicated above.

This promotional scheme seeks to prevent dropouts, reward merit and improve the academic performance of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students and help them pursue higher studies.